Case 14-01080-abl Doc 26 Entered 10/09/14 17:01:24 Page 1 of 5 E-Filed: 10-9-14 1 Goldsmith & Guymon, P.C. Marjorie A. Guymon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 4983 E-mail: <u>mguymon@goldguylaw.com</u> Calvin Y. Shin, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 13247 Email: cshin@goldguylaw.com 4 2055 Village Center Circle Las Vegas, Nevada 89134 Telephone: (702) 873-9500 Facsimile: (702) 873-9600 6 Pro Bono Attorneys for Haydee Jorge 7 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 8 DISTRICT OF NEVADA 9 In re: BK-S 14-10694 ABL 10 Chapter 7 Haydee Jorge, 11 12 Debtor. 13 Sushil Prabakaran, 14 Adv. No.14-01080-ABL Plaintiff 15 VS. 16 Haydee Jorge, 17 Defendant. 18 19 20 ANSWER TO COMPLAINT OBJECTING TO DEBTOR'S DISCHARGEABILITY OF INDEBTEDNESS (11 U.S.C. § 523) 21 AND COUNTERCLAIM FOR VIOLATION OF THE AUTOMATIC STAY 22 COMES NOW Defendant, Haydee Jorge (hereinafter "Defendant"), by and through counsel. 23 Marjorie A. Guymon, of Goldsmith & Guymon, P.C., and hereby files her Answer to the Complaint 24 Objecting Debtor's Dischargeability of Indebtedness (11 U.S.C. § 523) filed by Sushil Prabakaran 25 (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), files her Counterclaim for Violation of the Automatic Stay, and alleges as 26 follows:

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1		PARTIES AND JURISDICTION
2	1.	Answering paragraphs 1-4 of Plaintiff's Complaint, Defendant admits the allegations
3		contained therein.
4		PLAINTIFF'S COUNT 1
5	2.	Answering paragraphs 21-22 of Count 1 of Plaintiff's Complaint, Defendant admits the
6		allegations contained therein.
7	3.	Answering paragraphs 1-2, 4-7, 9, 10-15, 17-20, 23, and 24-35 of Count 1 of Plaintiff's
8		Complaint, Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.
9	4.	Answering paragraphs 3, 8, and 16 of Count 1 of Plaintiff's Complaint, Defendant lacks
10		sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained therein.
11		DEFENDANT'S FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
12	5.	Plaintiff's Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted as Plaintiff fails
13		to plead fraud with particularity pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7009 and Rule 9(b) of the
14		Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
15		DEFENDANT'S SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
16	6.	Plaintiff assumed the risk of being liable on Defendant's medical debt by guaranteeing the
17		loan.
18		DEFENDANT'S THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
19	7.	Plaintiff defrauded Defendant by fraudulently misrepresenting the alleged Promissory Note
20		as a blank form that Defendant was required to sign.
21		DEFENDANT'S FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
22	8.	The alleged Promissory Note lacked any consideration and is thus unenforceable.
23		DEFENDANT'S FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
24	9.	The Default Judgment entered by the District Court of Clark County was entered several
25	1	months after Defendant had filed for bankruptcy and was thus entered in violation of the
26		automatic stay.
27	-	REQUEST FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES
28	10.	Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7008(b), Defendant requests attorney's fees for having to

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respond to Plaintiff's frivolous Complaint.

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COUNTERCLAIM FOR VIOLATION OF AUTOMATIC STAY

3 4 1. This Counterclaim for Violation of Automatic Stay is brought pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 362, Bankruptcy Rule 7007, and Rule 7 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

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2. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2).

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3. In 2012, Plaintiff gifted monies to Defendant to pay for Defendant's reconstructive surgery.

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Plaintiff filed a Complaint in Nevada State Court on October 9, 2013, claiming in part that the monies gifted was a loan rather than a gift.

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5. Plaintiff filed an Application for Default Judgment in Nevada State Court on January 21, 2014.

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Defendant filed for Chapter 7 Bankruptcy with this Court on January 31, 2014. 6.

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7. Plaintiff was listed on Schedule F of Defendant's Bankruptcy Petition.

13 14 8. Plaintiff was duly noticed and aware of Defendant's Chapter 7 Bankruptcy on or around January 31, 2014.

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9. Plaintiff attended a hearing on the Application for Default Judgment in Nevada State Court on April 14, 2014, and failed to inform the Nevada State Court that the Defendant was currently in bankruptcy proceedings.

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10. The Nevada State Court entered a Default Judgment against Defendant on April 14, 2014.

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Section 362(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code prevents Plaintiff from "[commencing] or [continuing] . . . a judicial proceeding against the debtor that was or could have been

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commenced before the commencement of the [Bankruptcy], or to recover a claim against the

debtor that arose before the commencement of the [Bankruptcy]." 11 U.S.C. § 362(a)(1).

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12. As Plaintiff was fully aware of Defendant's Bankruptcy, Plaintiff willfully and intentionally continued a judicial proceeding against Defendant to recover a claim against Defendant that

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arose before Defendant filed for Bankruptcy in violation of the automatic stay.

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Section 362(k)(1) permits Defendant to recover actual damages, costs and attorney's fees, 13. and punitive damages in the event Defendant is injured by a willful violation of the automatic

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stay. 11 U.S.C. § 362(k)(1).

- 14. Defendant has incurred special damages with regards to Plaintiff's willful violation of the automatic stay by being forced to take time off work to attend hearings with regard to this matter, to consult with Defendant's attorneys, and in general to prepare or assist in the preparation of pleadings in the instant matter.
- 15. Defendant has incurred general damages for pain and suffering caused by Plaintiff's willful violation of the automatic stay resulting in extreme emotional damages by the Defendant at a time where Defendant is going through several strenuous life events including Defendant's Bankruptcy and Defendant's pregnancy.
- 16. Defendant's attorneys have incurred attorney's fees and costs by representing Defendant in the instant matter on a pro bono basis.
- 17. Punitive damages are proper here as Plaintiff willfully and intentionally violated the automatic stay and should be awarded in the maximum extent allowed by law.

WHEREFORE, Defendant prays for the following relief:

- (1) That Plaintiff take nothing under Plaintiff's Complaint Objecting to Debtor's Dischargeability of Indebtedness (11 U.S.C. § 523);
- (2) That this Court find that Plaintiff willfully and intentionally violated the automatic stay;
- (3) That this Court award special damages to Defendant for Defendant being forced to take time off work to attend hearings with regard to this matter, to consult with Defendant's attorneys, and in general to prepare or assist in the preparation of pleadings in the instant matter;
- (4) That this Court award general damages to Defendant for pain and suffering caused by Plaintiff's willful violation of the automatic stay resulting in extreme emotional damages by the Defendant at a time where Defendant is going through several strenuous life events including Defendant's Bankruptcy and Defendant's pregnancy;
- (5) That this Court award Defendant reasonable attorney's fees and costs;
- (6) That this Court award punitive damages in maximum extent allowed by law as Plaintiff willfully and intentionally violated the automatic stay; and

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(7) That this Court award such other relief as the Court deems just and proper. DATED: October 3, 2014. GOLDSMITH & GUYMON, P.C. By: Marjorie A. Guymon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 4983 Pro Bono Attorneys for Haydee Jorge W:\MAG\Client Matters\BK Clients\Jorge 1464-168\answer.wpd